

Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., September 22, 1836, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

On Steamboat near Marietta, September 22, 1836.

Dear Andrew, This is the 5th day I have been on the water, often rubbing the bottom, crowded in a small Boat, and almost suffocated with heat, altho daily raining more or less upon us, and annoyed with muskettoes—from all which you may conclude we are not enjoying much pleasure, still having met a rise of about 11 Inches water we are encouraged that we will be able to reach Wheeling tomorrow morning by water. Altho we have experienced the inconvenience of a small and crowded boat and very warm and unpleasant weather, the water conveyance was a godsend to us, as my horses would not have been able to have performed the journey all the way over land.

Altho it would have given me great pleasure to have had you, Sarah, and our dear little ones with me, still I am content that you were not, as the dear little ones must have suffered much, if not thrown into sickness by what must have been their situation on Board. Altho not with me I hope you are all enjoying health, and that in all the month of November next I will have the pleasure of seeing you with me in the city of Washington. I wish you with me early that you may aid me in packing up and preparing for our return to the Hermitage where I hope to spend the balance of my days with you and my dear little family in peace and quiet.

From the continued fall of rain upon us on our journey, I conclude it has been so with you—this with the unusual warmth must be destructive to our cotton. Let this be as it may we

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must be content. If the hands cannot be employed picking out cotton you ought to have the ploughs running preparing our meadows for sowing and the colts lotts for Grass, as we must change our culture in part from cotton and turn our attention to stock, hemp and perhaps tobacco, as I am convinced from the change of the seasons we must not depend upon the cotton crop entirely, for a support.

I engaged Mr Bugg to see Mr Barry Williams about his stock, and write you. I have directed him to engage some pork with the stock hoggs. you will want from five to ten thousand pounds of pork more, I think, than you will raise. it has opened at \$5 and a half in ohio, and will be very high this season, and the sooner you can make the engagement the better—with these brief remarks I leave it entirely to your own judgtment where and what quantity of pork to engage.

I wish you to sell our young studs, at least two of them, as we have too many on hand—sell on a credit if you cannot for cash, having the debt well secured—write me often, I shall be uneasy until I hear from you, I want to hear how my dear little andrew is, and write me how Emily and all Major A.J. Donelsons family are and whether the major has set out for the city and how Lucinda and all our connections are. . . .